

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021, 10:00 A.M., VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE.

PRESENT: Joy Zainey, Vice Chair; Wanda Theriot, Member; Red Thompson, Member; Gary Cooper, Member; Col. Spiceland, Member

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillpott; Robert Graham; Commander Curt Franz; Lt. Mike Kelly; Lt. Thea Andras; Stacie Heffker; Eileen Barthe; Crystal Scott; Georgie Bagnetto; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Liz Lambert and Chris LeMieux, Riess LeMieux; Cary Bourgeois and Johnny Bradberry, GEC; Jim Martin, Ben Bartlett, and John Hartgreve, DEI; Bob Schmidt, Huval & Associates; Jan Evans and Hossein Ghara, Volkert and Associates; Babak Naghavi, Hardesty and Hanover;

Mrs. Zainey called the meeting to order.

On motion by Mrs. Zainey and seconded by Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Theriot is nominated as Chair of the GNOEC. Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Cooper and Col. Spiceland voted in favor of the motion.

On motion by Ms. Theriot and seconded by Mr. Cooper, Mrs. Zainey is re-nominated as Vice Chair of the GNOEC. Ms. Theriot, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Cooper and Col. Spiceland voted in favor of the motion.

On motion by Ms. Theriot and seconded by Mr. Cooper, Mr. Thompson is nominated as Treasurer of the GNOEC. Ms. Theriot, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Cooper and Col. Spiceland voted in favor of the motion.

On motion by Ms. Theriot and seconded by Mr. Thompson, Mr. Cooper is nominated as Secretary of the GNOEC. Ms. Theriot, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Cooper and Col. Spiceland voted in favor of the motion.

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On motion by Ms. Theriot and seconded by Mrs. Zainey, Col. Spiceland is nominated as Assistant Secretary Treasurer of the GNOEC. Ms. Theriot, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Cooper voted in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Zainey introduced Col. Evans Spiceland and welcomed him to the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission. Col. Spiceland thanked everyone and stated he looked forward to the opportunity to work with the other Commissioners, GNOEC Staff, Consultants, and legal Counsel.

On the motion by Ms. Theriot, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 2, 2020 were accepted as written. Mrs. Zainey asked for comments or questions. There were none. Mrs. Zainey, Ms. Theriot, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Cooper, and Col. Spiceland voted in favor of that motion.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in November the Drawbridge operations included 13 vessel openings, no test openings and no incidents.

Mr. Dufrechou reported, since the last GNOEC meeting, there were no days of fog operations.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 276 breakdown responses in November on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 165 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 111 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 23 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 15 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 8 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 299 breakdown responses for both bridges in November.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month November there were a total of 3 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 1 occurred Northbound and 2 Southbound. Mr. Dufrechou stated 1 was caused by debris in the roadway. He reported there were 10 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge

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in November. Mr. Dufrechou stated 7 occurred Eastbound, 3 Westbound and 2 were caused by breakdowns or debris in the roadway.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in December the Drawbridge operations included 8 vessel openings, no test openings and no incidents.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 244 breakdown responses in December on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 140 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 104 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 19 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 18 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 1 was caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 263 breakdown responses for both bridges in December.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month December there were a total of 9 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 3 occurred Northbound and 6 Southbound. Mr. Dufrechou stated 3 were caused by debris in the roadway. He reported there were 11 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in December. Mr. Dufrechou stated 1 occurred Eastbound, 10 Westbound and none were caused by breakdowns or debris in the roadway.

On the Bridge Inspection Services, Mr. Dufrechou recommended selecting GEC, Inc. **On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, on June 10, 2020, the GNOEC re-issued R.F.Q. No. 2020-101 seeking Statements of Qualifications from firms to provide professional engineering services for bridge inspections, on an as needed basis for the GNOEC. On July 15, 2020, seven responses were received by the GNOEC. After evaluation, consideration, and upon recommendation from GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby selects GEC, Inc., the highest ranked firm, and further authorizes the General Manager to negotiate and enter into a**

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contract with GEC, Inc. for professional engineering services for bridge inspections, on an as needed basis. Mrs. Zainey asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Cooper asked Mr. Dufrechou how long does the negotiating process take. Mr. Dufrechou stated the process typically takes 90 days. Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Sharp, Ms. Theriot, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Cooper voted in favor of the motion.

Ms. Theriot reminded everyone the next meeting is tentatively scheduled on Wednesday, ~~February 3, 2021~~ (the meeting date was changed to March 3, 2021) at 10:00 a.m. via Video Conferencing. There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.

by: 
for

Wanda Theriot
Chair

by: 
for

Gary Cooper
Secretary